

# News

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## RESULTS OF PAY SURVEY IN ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA

Workers in the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) averaged \$16.37 per hour in June 1998, according to a new study released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Acting Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman reported that white-collar workers had the highest average wage level at \$18.82 per hour and accounted for 58 percent of the workers surveyed. Blue-collar workers averaged \$14.82 per hour and represented 26 percent of the workers, while the remaining 16 percent worked in service occupations and earned an average of \$9.26 per hour. (See table 1.)

The new National Compensation Survey provides data on straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local government. It excludes agricultural establishments, private households, self-employed, and the Federal government. The survey studied 325 establishments representing 662,589 workers in the St. Louis, MO-IL, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which includes the city of St. Louis, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis, and Warren Counties, MO; Sullivan city in Crawford County, MO; and Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties, IL.

Occupational wage rates were published for 123 detailed occupations. Among white-collar occupations, physical therapists averaged \$21.79 per hour, accountants and auditors \$18.10, and secretaries \$13.10. In blue-collar occupations, carpenters earned \$23.35 per hour, truck drivers \$15.29, and assemblers \$14.93. Among service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$16.30 per hour, cooks \$9.10, and janitors and cleaners \$8.28.

The survey also includes data for selected occupational characteristics, such as full- and part-time employment and union and nonunion status. Overall, full-time workers in the St. Louis, MO-IL area averaged \$17.11, while part-time employees earned \$8.85. Part-time workers in white-collar occupations earned an average of \$10.80 per hour, while part-timers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$7.94, and part-time service workers made \$6.20 per hour. Surveyed union blue-collar workers averaged \$16.22 per hour while their non-union counterparts earned \$12.33. Average rates of pay are also available for occupations based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job. These characteristics allow for comparison of occupations with similar requirements.

Data provided by the National Compensation Survey may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. The National Compensation Survey is part of a new statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program. The survey increases the amount of wage data available to businesses, employees, and the public, and reduces the time required of business establishments responding to BLS compensation surveys.

### **Survey Availability**

Complete survey results are contained in National Compensation Survey, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 1998, Bulletin 3095-14. Copies of survey tables are available on the Internet at <http://stats.bls.gov/ro7news.htm> and from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service by dialing (816) 426-3152 and requesting document 9660 and 9661. Bulletins may also be purchased from the U.S. Department of Labor, Publications Sales Center, 230 South Dearborn Street, 9th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604. Telephone orders using MasterCard or Visa credit cards are accepted at (312) 353-1880 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Central Time.

Bulletin tables   - PDF format  
                  - Text format

Table A-1. Hourly earnings(1) for selected occupations, all workers(2), all industries, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 1998

Occupation(3)	Mean	RSE	Percentiles				
			10	25	Median	75	90
				50			
All occupations.....	\$16.37	1.8%	\$7.03	\$9.50	\$14.01	\$20.49	\$27.40
All occupations excluding sales.....	16.61	1.8	7.32	9.84	14.33	20.72	27.58
White-collar occupations.....	18.82	2.1	8.21	10.91	15.73	23.70	33.00
White-collar occupations excluding sales.....	19.60	2.2	8.99	11.81	16.71	24.58	33.52
Professional specialty and technical occupations.....	22.92	2.4	12.22	15.63	21.13	27.67	35.41
Professional specialty occupations.....	24.22	2.5	13.21	17.45	22.47	29.11	37.02
Engineers, architects, and surveyors.....	29.71	5.1	21.14	23.69	28.10	33.35	41.86
Civil engineers.....	27.37	4.9	21.00	21.54	25.48	30.64	38.71
Industrial engineers.....	21.77	3.1	18.25	20.19	21.37	22.45	29.67
Engineers, N.E.C.....	27.64	4.7	23.16	24.91	26.33	29.27	34.87
Mathematical and computer scientists.....	24.31	3.3	16.32	20.37	24.62	27.67	30.38
Computer systems analysts and scientists.....	24.71	3.5	17.16	21.00	25.13	27.67	30.46
Operations and systems researchers and analysts.....	22.39	7.6	12.83	18.16	23.61	28.13	28.72
Natural scientists.....	28.60	9.4	12.00	21.27	29.15	35.86	44.31
Health related occupations.....	20.65	6.0	12.96	15.38	18.54	21.13	23.74
Physicians.....	44.77	23.8	17.76	17.76	41.74	60.23	81.32
Registered nurses.....	18.21	1.9	13.74	15.29	18.33	20.59	22.39
Physical therapists.....	21.79	5.2	17.25	18.90	20.34	23.67	27.25
Teachers, college and university.....	25.43	5.3	15.30	20.30	23.03	29.12	36.69
Art, drama and music teachers.....	22.46	4.6	14.71	20.88	23.03	26.08	27.20
Teachers, post secondary, subject not specified.....	26.67	12.7	13.55	19.94	27.86	33.00	36.02
Teachers, post secondary N.E.C.....	22.56	2.9	16.54	19.69	22.35	25.50	28.29
Teachers, except college and university.....	25.52	5.6	13.21	19.04	24.02	33.07	38.28
Prekindergarten and kindergarten.....	16.70	20.5	7.99	9.17	10.67	21.61	31.24
Elementary school teachers.....	28.00	5.1	18.68	21.05	27.72	34.10	39.59
Secondary school teachers.....	27.89	6.7	18.10	21.05	26.76	34.55	40.35
Teachers, special education.....	22.11	13.5	13.21	13.47	20.83	30.28	34.15
Teachers, N.E.C.....	15.11	10.7	10.67	11.00	15.07	18.00	23.00
Librarians, archivists, and curators.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners.....	22.58	10.2	12.82	18.50	19.95	27.88	34.68
Economists.....	20.58	4.8	17.98	18.50	18.50	20.67	27.88
Social, recreation, and religious workers.....	15.33	4.6	12.09	12.57	13.51	17.89	21.16
Social workers.....	15.25	4.7	12.09	12.57	13.50	17.89	21.16
Lawyers and judges.....	32.34	12.4	16.64	25.81	30.16	36.30	48.82
Lawyers.....	32.34	12.4	16.64	25.81	30.16	36.30	48.82
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, N.E.C.....	19.30	6.4	11.06	14.09	17.04	22.81	29.66
Designers.....	17.00	9.0	11.06	13.00	15.12	21.42	25.36
Public relations specialists.....	17.76	9.8	13.80	14.88	16.98	20.45	22.44
Professional occupations, N.E.C.....	28.44	17.4	13.46	18.61	28.85	39.88	41.11
Technical occupations.....	17.45	6.4	8.33	11.91	15.10	19.44	25.53
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians.....	15.91	3.7	10.97	14.21	16.07	18.00	19.45
Radiological technicians.....	16.71	4.6	12.71	14.20	17.10	18.31	21.41
Licensed practical nurses.....	\$10.75	6.6%	\$6.81	\$7.67	\$11.10	\$13.17	\$14.57
Health technologists and technicians, N.E.C.....	11.38	6.5	8.30	8.86	10.25	13.66	16.07
Electrical and electronic technicians.....	18.38	7.1	12.67	15.39	19.34	21.49	23.00
Drafters.....	17.49	9.0	11.52	12.89	16.20	22.94	29.48
Computer programmers.....	20.60	5.9	15.61	17.03	19.43	25.53	26.64
Technical and related occupations, N.E.C.....	16.07	9.4	9.73	12.13	16.74	18.96	21.00

Table A-1. Hourly earnings(1) for selected occupations, all workers(2), all industries, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 1998, con't

Occupation(3)	Mean	RSE	Percentiles				
			10	25	Median	75	90
				50			
Executive, administrative, and managerial occupations.....	26.10	3.0	13.48	17.22	23.46	31.53	42.08
Executives, administrators, and managers.....	31.14	4.1	16.10	21.19	28.30	39.00	47.26
Administrators and officials, public administration.....	23.97	4.7	16.10	20.15	23.40	26.56	32.09
Financial managers.....	32.30	12.2	15.38	22.38	26.92	39.52	50.96
Managers., marketing, advertising and public relations.....	32.38	9.8	13.38	26.47	31.53	39.50	53.26
Administrators, education and related fields.....	28.39	9.8	12.65	18.67	26.40	36.72	42.74
Managers, medicine and health.....	24.83	5.3	18.95	21.19	23.61	26.94	32.59
Managers, service organizations, N.E.C.....	18.19	8.9	13.94	15.11	16.56	21.90	26.25
Managers and administrators, N.E.C.....	33.37	5.2	18.27	21.16	31.25	42.19	49.63
Management related occupations.....	19.86	3.1	12.76	14.60	18.54	23.85	27.90
Accountants and auditors.....	18.10	7.2	11.87	13.88	17.69	19.37	27.19
Other financial officers.....	20.93	7.8	14.38	16.63	18.26	22.67	40.00
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists.....	17.82	7.2	12.41	13.03	16.71	20.65	26.30
Purchasing agents and buyers, N.E.C.....	20.75	6.5	13.67	16.82	19.58	24.99	27.25
Construction inspectors.....	18.31	19.4	12.54	13.17	14.41	15.61	33.55
Management related occupations, N.E.C.....	21.66	6.9	12.76	15.05	22.90	26.17	30.97
Sales occupations.....	13.17	6.7	6.00	7.07	9.11	15.34	23.81
Supervisors, sales occupations.....	19.17	19.5	9.30	13.46	16.00	17.84	44.43
Sales occupations, other business services.....	23.45	12.3	10.94	13.59	19.27	27.41	36.61
Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale.....	23.38	7.6	15.17	18.65	20.58	27.05	37.02
Sales workers, motor vehicles and boats.....	27.05	31.0	8.53	12.25	20.19	28.98	71.56
Sales counter clerks.....	8.23	3.9	5.81	6.20	7.54	10.15	12.20
Cashiers.....	7.97	4.6	5.50	6.20	7.75	9.00	10.50
Administrative support occupations, including clerical.....	11.92	2.1	7.72	9.10	11.15	14.00	16.83
Supervisors, general office.....	17.02	6.9	10.83	13.64	14.92	20.81	23.89
Supervisors, financial records processing.....	15.09	8.2	12.50	12.84	14.01	14.01	19.50
Computer operators.....	12.96	6.1	10.37	11.10	12.82	15.42	15.58
Secretaries.....	13.10	3.8	9.18	10.75	12.63	14.54	17.37
Typists.....	11.37	9.6	8.52	9.22	10.99	12.65	16.00
Receptionists.....	8.59	3.3	7.00	7.50	8.77	9.23	10.44
Information clerks, N.E.C.....	10.02	5.0	8.22	8.63	9.26	10.50	12.64
Order clerks.....	10.04	8.0	7.60	8.34	9.50	11.36	12.73
Library clerks.....	9.04	5.1	6.25	7.30	9.67	10.07	11.44
Records clerks, N.E.C.....	10.85	6.3	7.32	8.87	10.56	12.61	14.91
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks.....	10.70	2.7	8.51	9.18	10.44	11.92	13.82
Payroll and timekeeping clerks.....	14.62	7.9	9.29	11.84	15.33	18.12	18.12
Billing clerks.....	12.09	5.2	10.01	10.86	11.70	13.41	15.41
Telephone operators.....	13.17	8.6	7.50	9.71	14.84	14.84	15.75
Dispatchers.....	11.27	6.9	8.15	9.14	11.06	13.27	14.00
Production coordinators.....	\$15.44	13.3%	\$10.44	\$11.02	\$17.00	\$20.59	\$20.59
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks.....	11.89	5.9	9.82	10.50	11.50	12.50	15.65
Stock and inventory clerks.....	11.80	9.4	6.75	8.28	10.20	14.34	15.96
Material recording, scheduling, & distribution clerks, N.E.C.	10.20	5.5	6.41	7.45	8.82	12.28	12.85
Insurance adjusters, examiners, & investigators.....	15.41	6.0	9.57	11.54	14.81	18.77	21.82
Investigators and adjusters except insurance.....	12.01	11.2	8.27	9.05	10.67	13.31	18.30
Bill and account collectors.....	13.98	5.2	10.71	12.05	13.94	15.43	19.08
General office clerks.....	10.34	4.2	7.43	8.45	9.76	11.73	13.60
Bank tellers.....	9.06	8.3	6.55	7.40	8.84	10.23	13.41
Data entry keyers.....	8.11	6.1	6.45	6.82	7.87	8.99	10.40
Teachers' aides.....	9.27	9.2	6.20	6.84	8.21	11.14	13.19
Administrative support occupations, N.E.C.....	11.12	4.9	7.85	9.00	11.06	13.25	14.77

Table A-1. Hourly earnings(1) for selected occupations, all workers(2), all industries, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 1998, con't

Occupation(3)	Mean	RSE	Percentiles				
			10	25	Median	75	90
				50			
Blue-collar occupations.....	14.82	2.1	8.00	10.49	14.06	19.59	21.61
Precision production, craft, and repair occupations.....	18.08	2.3	11.00	13.86	18.79	21.43	24.93
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers.....	21.37	9.4	15.80	16.80	19.55	24.94	28.45
Industrial machinery repairers.....	15.25	3.7	12.84	14.06	14.98	16.38	17.96
Electronic repairers, communications and industrial equipment.....	16.09	9.8	12.02	12.21	15.20	20.85	21.12
Mechanics and repairers, N.E.C.....	15.94	5.0	10.92	12.64	14.45	19.57	21.22
Carpenters.....	23.35	3.1	20.76	20.79	24.99	25.46	26.45
Electricians.....	20.98	6.1	15.41	19.06	21.61	23.70	26.02
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters.....	21.60	6.5	13.68	19.73	23.46	24.72	25.68
Supervisors, production occupations.....	19.51	3.3	14.60	17.22	19.17	21.51	24.78
Machinists.....	20.31	3.5	16.42	18.86	21.39	21.43	22.02
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors.....	13.59	2.8	8.27	9.75	12.48	17.24	20.72
Punching and stamping press operators.....	11.84	3.3	10.49	11.00	11.66	12.45	13.00
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators	13.57	7.6	10.76	11.90	11.90	13.12	20.31
Fabricating machine operators, N.E.C.....	12.34	7.8	8.33	10.58	11.55	15.64	15.88
Printing press operators.....	15.70	12.6	10.42	10.99	14.90	21.77	23.79
Painting and paint spraying machine operators.....	13.80	10.7	9.20	10.74	11.25	20.15	20.52
Miscellaneous machine operators, N.E.C.....	12.79	7.6	8.50	8.82	12.30	15.96	20.75
Welders and cutters.....	12.27	10.7	9.56	10.84	10.84	15.74	16.78
Assemblers.....	14.93	4.5	7.27	10.50	14.64	20.19	20.72
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners.....	12.78	7.9	8.65	10.38	10.84	16.26	20.52
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	14.91	5.2	8.00	10.17	15.07	20.09	21.10
Truck drivers.....	15.29	9.0	8.44	10.50	15.69	18.46	21.92
Bus drivers.....	11.94	7.0	7.48	8.76	11.25	16.03	16.03
Motor transportation occupations, N.E.C.....	5.94	5.1	5.25	5.25	6.00	6.00	7.10
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators.....	13.65	9.4	9.50	9.51	12.80	18.02	18.14
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers.....	11.73	3.7	6.16	8.00	10.95	14.43	18.36
Groundskeepers and gardeners except farm.....	12.61	10.3	8.00	10.50	12.73	15.10	16.98
Supervisors, handlers, equipment cleaners, and laborers, N.E.C.....	14.10	7.2	11.15	12.92	13.59	13.97	22.54
Construction laborers.....	\$17.61	6.9%	\$11.65	\$13.42	\$20.08	\$20.96	\$20.96
Production helpers.....	10.79	10.9	8.22	9.22	9.24	13.83	16.95
Stock handlers and baggers.....	8.44	7.6	5.44	6.00	7.74	10.06	13.37
Freight, stock, and material handlers, N.E.C.....	14.96	4.3	9.00	10.99	14.63	18.36	19.12
Hand packers and packagers.....	9.67	7.7	7.00	8.79	8.79	12.15	13.82
Laborers except construction, N.E.C.....	11.39	4.9	6.51	8.75	10.75	14.36	16.45
Service occupations.....	9.26	2.9	5.30	6.22	7.87	11.01	15.97
Protective service occupations.....	14.86	3.2	9.99	11.69	14.60	18.12	19.74
Supervisors, police and detectives.....	21.57	5.4	17.07	19.70	21.20	24.14	26.16
Police and detectives, public service.....	16.30	2.8	13.10	14.38	16.23	18.45	19.46
Guards and police except public service.....	11.71	6.9	8.08	9.50	11.29	13.05	17.05
Food service occupations.....	7.06	3.8	2.40	5.36	6.53	8.86	10.66
Supervisors, food preparation and service occupations.....	12.03	9.0	8.92	9.50	12.07	14.18	16.09
Waiters and waitresses.....	3.39	11.2	2.13	2.13	2.95	4.26	5.75
Cooks.....	9.10	7.8	5.76	6.74	9.00	10.25	11.49
Food counter, fountain, and related occupations.....	5.97	1.7	5.42	5.42	5.92	6.38	7.00
Kitchen workers, food preparation.....	7.34	6.2	6.08	6.41	6.81	7.44	8.63
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants.....	4.98	19.6	2.13	2.13	2.35	8.25	8.25
Food preparation occupations, N.E.C.....	6.50	6.5	5.25	5.30	6.00	7.08	9.02

Table A-1. Hourly earnings(1) for selected occupations, all workers(2), all industries, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 1998, con't

Occupation(3)	Mean	RSE	Percentiles				
			10	25	Median	75	90
				50			
Health service occupations.....	8.25	3.0	6.00	6.75	7.87	9.13	11.05
Health aides, except nursing.....	9.00	5.8	6.00	7.60	8.48	9.85	11.96
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants.....	8.03	3.2	6.00	6.75	7.54	8.95	10.87
Cleaning and building service occupations.....	8.26	5.9	5.49	6.20	7.34	9.11	12.29
Maids and housemen.....	6.71	1.7	5.83	6.24	6.46	7.05	8.15
Janitors and cleaners.....	8.28	7.0	5.37	6.15	7.45	9.16	11.89
Personal service occupations.....	10.10	6.8	5.76	6.22	7.87	10.60	22.60
Early childhood teachers' assistants.....	7.68	7.9	5.54	6.70	7.44	8.51	10.00
Child care workers, N.E.C.....	7.53	4.0	6.49	6.98	7.87	7.87	7.87
Service occupations, N.E.C.....	8.50	10.2	5.15	6.12	8.56	10.24	12.22

1 Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours. The 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th and 90th percentiles designate position in the earnings distribution. At the 50th percentile, the median, half of the workers receive the same as or more than the rate shown, and half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. At the 25th percentile, one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the rate shown. At the 75th percentile, one-fourth earn the same as or more than the rate shown. The 10th and 90th percentiles follow the same logic.

2 All workers include full-time and part-time workers. Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

3 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. Individual occupations are classified into one of nine major occupational groups.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. Overall occupational groups and occupational levels may include data for categories not shown separately. N.E.C. means "not elsewhere classified."